

Kwangtung. On the 14th inst. the Legislative Council met, when it was announced that proposed increase of the Stamp duties would be withdrawn, it being found, on scrutiny, that urgent necessity existed for increased taxation and the Loan Bill and Peace Preservation Bill were read a second time. Great satisfaction is felt at the abandonment of the idea of increasing

Acting Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department and the Government Astronomer have been published. The Hong Kong Choral Society gave another concert on the night of the 14th inst. in St. Andrew's Hall and the Mascotte Opera Company and Chirig...

the Franco-Chinese war. Prince Louis Napoleon, second son of Prince Jerome Bonaparte, arrived here on the 17th inst., in the M. M. steamer *Natal*, on a tour round the world, and is now staying in the Colony. General de Negrier arrived here from Tongkin on the 18th inst.

the casualty was caused by the pilot flying on the wrong course, and that the Captain committed an error in not verifying the course, but as

The German grauboot *Itiss* left this port Saturday afternoon *en route* for Europe.

General de Negrier was a passenger by the German steamer *Albatross*, which arrived at Hongkong on Sunday from Eschipsky.

It is stated that Dr. H. F. Hanco, H.E.M. Vice-Consul at Wampoa, has been appointed British Consul at Amoy.

Mr. E. Gordon, American Consul, Charles Donly, U. S. Minister to China, arrived here on Wednesday morning, the 14th inst. from Shanghai by American corvette *Marian*.

On Saturday evening a steamer Saturday by the steamer *Peking* to assume charge of the German Consulates in Hongkong and Canton pending the arrival of Mr. Peldtram.

We hear that at a meeting of the Hongkong General Association, which was being called to be resolved to dissolve the Association. Some resolutions were passed on the action of the late honorary secretary.

On the afternoon of the 14th inst., at the office of Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons & Co., Esqrs. the Villa at Pokfulam was put up to another Mr. H. N. Mody, and was sold to Mr. Grainger Sharp for \$6,100.

A rumour was current in town on the 14th inst. that a steamer with nine hundred Chinese passengers on board had been blown upon its voyage from here to Singapore. So far as we have been able to ascertain there is no foundation for the rumour.

It is notified in Saturday's *Gazette* that I

Excellency the Acting Governor has appointed Mr. Francis Henry May, Passed Cadet, to Acting Assistant Registrar-General, vice N. G. Mitchell-Innes, doing duty as Acting Police Magistrate and Coroner.

The P. and O. steamer *Thames*, having completed her repairs at Aberdeen, came out of dock and steamed round into harbour on the afternoon of the 14th inst. She has taken the mail for London, and will proceed with the homeward mail on the 23rd instant.

We hear that an action has been commenced in the Supreme Court by Don Justo Maria Lucas, Civil Governor of Manila, against Charles A. Tyrrell, of the Macosette Opera Company, for the recovery of \$5,000 damages, libel. Messrs. Sharp, Johnson & Stokes are retained for the plaintiff and Mr. Caldwell for the defendant.

Information has been received from Saigon that the British steamer *Lynceus* was arrested there on the 1st inst. for having opium on board and that, although neither the opium, cargo

The British steamer *Kaisow*, a new addition to the fleet of the China Shippers' Mutual Steam Navigation Company, Limited, arrived here on the 16th inst. from London, bringing dates to date and utimo. The *Kaisow* is a vessel of 1,935 tons register, and is commanded by Captain W.

On Thursday evening a large junk was up in the harbour between Whitefield and Ham. She was caught in a sudden squall which capsized her so quickly that a man who was low at the time was not able to make his exit. There were ten other persons on the junk but all of them managed to get into a boat belonging to the junk, and were saved. There were about 500 piculs of rice on board the junk.

By the French mail steamer *Natal*, which arrived here on the 17th instant, Pri-

Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, second son of Prince Jerome Bonaparte and of Princess Clotilde. Saxe-Coburg, and therefore grandson of the late King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, arrived here. The elder brother Prince Victor is generally recognized as the hope of the Bonapartists. Prince Louis who is 22 years of age, is travelling under the name of the Comte de Moncalieri, and is on a tour around the world. He will return to Europe by way of San Francisco.

quarter of 1885, made by the Registrar-General, are published in Saturday's *Gazette*. There were 32 births and 45 deaths amongst the British and Foreign community, and 412 births and 1,141 deaths amongst the Chinese. The deaths amongst the British and foreign community were thus distributed:—British and Foreign, 14; Indians, 4; non-residents, 1. The annual death-rate per 1,000 for the quarter was for the whole population, 32.16; British and Foreign community, 18.53; ditto, detached non-residents, 13.08; Chinese, 34.04.

The second Chinese extradition case was Mr. Mackean at the Police Court on the 14th. The evidence taken against the second prisoner was of a character similar to that taken against the first—alleging acts of piracy and murder within the jurisdiction of the Emperor of China. Mr. Ewens again prosecuted on behalf of the Chinese Government, while Mr. Wotton defended. After the evidence had been taken, Mr. Ewens submitted that a *prima facie* case had been made out upon which the prisoner might be committed to the custody of the Chinese authorities.

denounced. Mr. Wenton contended that the donation was altogether feeble, contradictory, unreliable, and he applied for his client's discharge. His Worship reserved his decision.

It is with sincere regret we learn of the death of M. Scherzer, late French Consul at Canton, which occurred on board the M. M. steamer *Djemah*, in the Red Sea, while on the passage home. M. Scherzer, who acted for some time as Private Secretary to Admiral Courbet, contracted dysentery at the Pescadores, which he shipped off to some extent on his return to Hongkong.

He was subsequently appointed a member of the Franco-Chinese Frontier Delimitation Commission, and proceeded to Tonquin, but soon fell ill, his health giving way, and had to return to Hongkong when he was invalided home. The disease, however, had made too great progress and he did not recover to reach his native land. M. Scherzer was well known and liked in Hongkong, and he was a Chinese scholar of no ordinary attainments.

features here, which were caused by the exceptional strength of the south monsoon last summer. He quotes the Registrar-General's return of the monthly death-rate among the Chinese in Hongkong from zymotic diseases the years 1884 and 1885, and says the effects of the increased strength of the south monsoon in 1885 appear in the increased death-rate from various diseases. From the tables appended to the report we find that the mean temperature last year was 70.8 at the Observatory and 65 at the Peak. The lowest and highest months

measured in February and July and were respectively 54.9 at the Observatory and 48.1 at Victoria Peak in February and 89.9 and 75.1 in July. The snow can stand during 1,882.1 hours out of a possible 4,095 hours, giving a percentage of 46. Rain fell at the Observatory on 144 days, its duration being 748 hours, and the quantity 108,925 inches. At Stonewater Island the quantity was 106.7 inches, and at Victoria Peak 128.05 inches. See the table giving the monthly extremes of the

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Hongkong, 22nd March, 1888. [616]

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Port, and will have quick despatch.
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Hongkong, 2nd March, 1886. 1473

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J. B. Blathan, Master, will load here for the
above Port, and will have quick despatch.
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RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, 27th March, 1886. 1654

MAILS E PECTED.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Pekin*, with the next outward English mail, left Singapore on the 15th, and may be expected here on the 21st instant.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The O. & O. steamer *Oceanic*, with the next American mail, left San Francisco on the 3rd April, and is due here on or about the 2nd May.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The P. M. steamer *City of Sydney*, with dates from San Francisco to the 24th instant, left Yokohama on the 17th, and is due here on the 23rd instant.

The Austro-Hungarian Lloyd's steamer *Amphitrite* left Singapore on the morning of the 17th, and is due here on the 24th instant.

The Union Line steamer *Oxfordshire* left Singapore on the 13th, and is due here on the 24th instant.

The Shire Line steamer *Dundaghshire* left Singapore on the 19th, and is due here on the 26th instant.

The E. & A. steamer *Tamandoo* left Sydney on the 13th April, and is due here on the 4th May.

POST-OFFICE NOTICES.

When Correspondence has been mis-sent or delayed (both of which are liable to happen occasionally) all that the address need do to be noted on the cover, sent to me, or received without any other writing whatever, to the Postmaster-General. This should be noted at the first time cause of complaint occurs; it is

The Postal Guide for 1886, revised to date will be found in the *Daily Press* per Director, p. 285; revised, p. 701, small edition. This is the only authorised complete summary of Postal information published in Hongkong.

✚ The authorised List of Vails issued in connection with this paper is the one published twice each day in our Extra, which is always corrected to a much later hour than that given below.

A VAIL WILL CLOSE

For Swatow and Bangkok.—*Per Hongkong*, to-day, the 20th inst., at 5.30 P.M.

For Hongkong.—*Per Peking*, to-day, the 20th inst., at 1.30 P.M.

For Shanghai.—*Per Aikong*, to-day, the 20th inst., at 3.30 P.M.

For Shanghai.—*Per Kowloon*, to-day, the 20th inst., at 5.00 P.M.

For Amoy and Manila.—*Per Antonio Manoa*, to-day, the 20th inst., at 3.30 P.M.

For Shanghai.—*Per Canton*, to-day, the 20th inst., at 5.00 P.M.

For Hongkong.—*Per Peking*, to-day, the 20th inst., at 5.00 P.M.

For Swatow, Amoy, and Foochow.—*Per Hapshong*, to-morrow, the 21st inst., at 5.30 A.M.

For Hongkong.—*Per Canton*, to-day, the 21st inst., at 4.30 P.M.

For Amoy.—*Per Cebu*, to-morrow, the 21st inst., at 5.00 P.M.

For Swatow and Bombay.—*Per Venetia*, to-morrow, the 21st inst., at 5.00 P.M.

For Straits and Calcutta.—*Per Tasman*, to-morrow, the 21st inst., at 5.00 P.M.

on Saturday, the 24th inst., at 2.30 P.M.
 For Nacmaki, Kobe, and Yokohama.—Per
Thetis, on Saturday, the 24th inst., at 5.00 P.M.
 For Singapore.—Per *Polynaymia*, on Mon-
 day, the 26th inst., at 4.30 P.M.

MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACIFIC.
 The French Contract Packet *Milhouer* will
 be despatched on TUESDAY, the 26th inst.,
 for the United Kingdom, France, and
 places beyond, with *Norlas*; to Saigon,
 Straits Settlements, Batavia, Borneo, Ceylon,
 the Australian Colonies, Pondicherry,
 Calcutta, Aden, Mauritius, Egypt, India, and
 Gibraltar.

The usual hours will be observed in closing
 the Mails, &c.

**HOURS FOR CLOSING THE CONTRACT
 MAILS.**

THE FRENCH MAIL.
Day before Departure.
 5 P.M., Money Order Office closes. Post Office
 closes, except the night box, which is always
 open out of the day.

Day of Departure.
 7 A.M., Post Office opens. Booking

all printed matter and patterns cesses.
11 A.M., Mail closes, except for Late Letters.
11.10 A.M., Letters may be posted with Late Foo
of 10 cents until the Post Office closes entirely.
11.40 A.M., Late Letters may be posted on board
the packet with Late Foo of 10 Cents until
time of departure.

MAILS BY THE BRITISH PACKET.
The British Contract Packet *Thames* will
be despatched on FRIDAY the 23rd April
at 10 A.M. for the United Kingdom, Eu-
rope and countries beyond, *via Brindisi*; to
the Straits Settlements, Batavia, Borneo,
Ceylon, India, Aden, Egypt, Malta, and
Gibraltar.

The usual hours will be observed in closing
the Mails, &c.

The Post Office declines all responsibility for
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and, where Registration has been neglected, will
make no enquiries into alleged losses of such
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